



## San Diego Community Power Legislative Platform

### Overview and Purpose

San Diego Community Power's (SDCP) Legislative Policy Platform (Platform) serves as a guide to the SDCP Board of Directors and SDCP staff in their advocacy efforts and engagement on policy matters of interest to SDCP. The Platform allows both Board members and staff to pursue actions at the local, regional, state and federal legislative levels in a consistent manner and with the understanding that they are pursuing actions in the best interest of the organization and its mission, its member agencies, and its customers. The Platform enables the organization to move swiftly to respond to issues before Legislature and Executive Branch agencies including California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the California Energy Commission (CEC), California Independent System Operator (CAISO), and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) so that SDCP's views can be heard on important matters in a timely fashion. This Platform is applicable to statewide referenda, grant funding opportunities, and local ballot initiatives. The Platform provides guidance to the Chief Executive Officer on support or oppose positions that should be taken on legislative matters identified by the SDCP Director of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs and the California Community Choice Association (CalCCA) Board of Directors.

The Platform outlines the legislative priorities and stances of SDCP with the intent to inform customers, representatives, and policymakers on the myriad of public policies that intersect with SDCP's priorities, programs, and services.

SDCP has three major legislative priorities:

1. Accelerating Deep Decarbonization, including electrification of buildings and the transportation sector;
2. Promoting Local Development, and
3. Stabilizing Community Choice.

SDCP support of legislation will be contingent upon that legislation adhering to these legislative priorities as well as SDCP's organizational goals and priorities. Moreover, SDCP supports any and all policies that will preserve or enhance the ability of SDCP to promote these priorities at the local level.

Any questions regarding this Platform can be directed to Laura Fernandez, Director of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs, at [lfernandez@sdcommunitypower.org](mailto:lfernandez@sdcommunitypower.org).

### General Legislative Principles

SDCP has three general legislative principles. These priorities serve as the foundation for all actions SDCP will take, including the lobbying for policies that promote those same guiding priorities. Public policy encompasses a myriad of subject and topic areas. However, as these policies intersect at the local level, they have the ability to impact SDCP revenues, programs, and/or administrative discretion and control. SDCP will support policies that accelerate deep decarbonization, promote local development,



stabilize community choice, or any combination thereof. If a given policy does not meet these criteria, SDCP will oppose, support with amendments, or in some cases take no stance on that policy or legislation. The General Legislative Principles for SDCP are:

### **Accelerating Deep Decarbonization**

- Support the creation or expansion of federal, state, and local policies, programs and funding that enable SDCP to provide 100% renewable energy by 2035 or sooner to customers within its service territory as well as contribute to the State's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including through building electrification and transportation electrification.
- Oppose any legislation, policies, programs, referenda, unfunded mandates and budgets that would have an adverse impact on SDCP's ability to advance decarbonization through its procurement, programs, projects, and services.

### **Promoting Local Development**

- Support any legislation, policy, funding, referenda, and budgets that enhance community choice energy providers' ability to invest in local clean energy, distributed energy resources, grid resiliency, zero-emission transportation, all while promoting equity in the communities that it serves.
- Oppose any legislation, policy, funding, referenda, and budgets that limit or undermine SDCP's ability to invest in local clean energy, distributed energy resources, zero-emission transportation, all while promoting equity in the communities that it serves.

### **Stabilizing Community Choice**

- Support any legislation, policies, funding, referenda, and budgets that maintain or improve the stability of community choice energy providers by ensuring regulatory structure is equitable and enables Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) to meet their mission and goals. Maintaining local decision-making authority, including rate-setting authority and procurement of energy, is a key pillar for this stability.
- Oppose any legislation, policies, funding, referenda, and budgets that undermine or circumvent CCAs and impede the ability of SDCP to achieve its mission and goals or its value proposition.

The list of policy positions below is by no means exhaustive. In addition to the general legislative priorities, SDCP takes the following more specific public policy positions:

#### **I. Governance and Authority**

- a. Oppose legislation that limits the local decision-making authority for CCAs, including rate-setting authority and procurement of energy and capacity to serve their customers.
- b. Oppose legislation that limits SDCP's ability to effectively serve its customers.
- c. Support legislation that makes it easier for other cities and counties that are not served by a publicly owned utility to form a CCA, become



members of SDCP or other CCAs, and oppose legislation that restricts that ability.

## **II. Deep Decarbonization**

- a. Advocate for and support legislative efforts to accelerate deep decarbonization of the energy sector, transportation and the built environment.
- b. Advocate for and support legislative efforts to support and expand access to transportation and building electrification.
- c. Advocate for and support efforts to ensure flexibility in program design so that local data and local needs directly inform program offerings.
- d. Support state funding for electric vehicle infrastructure grant programs.
- e. Advocate for and support legislative efforts to provide incentives to support communities of concern achieving deep decarbonization.

## **III. Environmental Justice**

- a. Support legislation that supports the ability of communities of concern in the SDCP service area to have affordable, reliable and clean energy.
- b. Support legislation that strengthens the resilience of vulnerable communities to the impacts of climate change.
- c. Support legislation that enables all communities, including emerging and historically marginalized communities in California, to participate in deep decarbonization efforts.
- d. Support legislation that would take into account the concept of social cost of carbon.
- e. Support legislation and initiatives that would reduce local air pollution, reduce other negative local impacts associated with energy production, and boost adoption of distributed energy resources within communities of concern.
- f. Oppose legislation and initiatives that have the potential to disproportionately and negatively impact communities of concern.

## **IV. Environmental Sustainability**

- a. Support legislation and initiatives that increase funding for the creation of sustainable and stable energy supply infrastructure.
- b. Support legislation and initiatives that encourage the conservation of energy resources as well as the development of dynamic load-shifting capabilities.
- c. Support legislation and funding for renewable and advanced energy technology that increase efficient consumption.
- d. Support legislation and funding for pilot energy and resource efficiency programs.
- e. Support legislation and initiatives with the goal of reducing and mitigating the effects of climate change and building local resiliency.

## **V. Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) Charges and Exit Fees - Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA)**

- a. Support efforts that seek to eliminate exit fees including the PCIA or wind down exit fees within a reasonable time frame.



- b. Support efforts to minimize the cost of the PCIA generally and minimize its impact on SDCP's rates.
- c. Support CalCCA efforts to increase the transparency of IOU electricity contracts that provide the basis for PCIA charges.
- d. Support legislation that would bring stability to the PCIA and/or provide new mechanisms for CCAs to securitize PCIA charges.
- e. Support legislation that advances ratepayer equity.
- f. Oppose legislation that would increase or expand exit fees on CCA customers.

**VI. Resource Adequacy**

- a. Support legislation by CalCCA to implement the recommendations from Working Group 3 via statute.
- b. Oppose legislation that would supplant CCAs' procurement authority for Resource Adequacy.
- c. Support reform of the CPUC Resource Adequacy program to allow for stability in the resource adequacy value of existing resources.
- d. Advocate for and support efforts to remove barriers to demand response, microgrids and behind the meter resources to provide Resource Adequacy.

**VII. Nonbypassable Charges**

- a. Oppose legislation that restricts or limits SDCP's ability to procure its own energy products to meet state policy goals.
- b. Support legislation that promotes a level playing field between CCAs and other market participants.
- c. Support legislation that enhances the flexibility of CCA programs to support statewide procurement policy and develop and expand programs, local options, and rate design to support SDCP's community and customers.

**VIII. Community Resilience**

- a. Advocate for and support funding for programs implemented by CCAs and their member jurisdictions to increase community resilience to wildfires, public safety power shutoff (PSPS) events and other potential service disruptions.
- b. Support legislation that reduces barriers to microgrid development by CCAs.
- c. Oppose legislation that would enable IOUs to be the only developer of microgrids.
- d. Support legislation that increases development of community-level resources and distributed energy resources that increase resilience and reduce the need for new transmission and distribution infrastructure.

**IX. Local Economic Development**

- a. Support legislation that is consistent with SDCP's commitment to an inclusive and sustainable workforce.
- b. Support legislation that enhances opportunities for CCAs to promote local economic development through locally designed programs that meet the unique needs of their member agencies, communities, and customers.



- c. Support efforts to enhance development of local and regional sources of renewable energy.
  - d. Support legislation that enables CCAs to collaborate with their member jurisdictions on local energy resources and projects to advance environmental objectives.
  - e. Advocate for and support efforts to direct federal economic stimulus/recovery funding to CCAs to deliver local energy resources and projects, as appropriate.
- X. **California Energy Market Structure**
  - a. Oppose legislation that expands direct access or the ability or economic incentives for electric service providers to selectively recruit CCA or IOU customers.
  - b. Support legislation that would create renewable content and environmental standards for electric service providers to match the products offered by CCAs.
  - c. Support legislation that changes California's market structures towards innovative models that reduce costs of energy service and support the expansion of carbon-free resources.
  - d. Support legislation that advocates for equitable and timely data access/sharing between the IOUs, CCAs and other LSEs to support accurate and timely load forecasts, which aid in overall statewide grid reliability and resiliency efforts.
- XI. **Finance**
  - a. Support legislation that enhances the financial standing of CCAs and their ability to receive a positive credit rating.
  - b. Oppose legislation that reduces or removes the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.
  - c. Oppose any legislation that would divert CCA revenues to the State or other governmental entities.
- XII. **Educational, Neighborhood and Social Services**
  - a. Support legislation that aids or helps to fund SDCP to provide energy support services, education, and opportunities for reducing energy costs to people who are low-income, seniors, veterans, and/or people with disabilities.
  - b. Support legislation and initiatives that increase funding for energy efficiency, demand response, solar plus storage, and transportation electrification programs, and energy literacy services.